(Mr. Al-Sallal, Kuwait)

The credibility of the Iraqi regime is almost non-existent. Its lies were exposed to the entire world by its false statements to the international community in the United Nations concerning its nuclear, biological and chemical weapons in particular. They have also been exposed by its practices against the inspection teams delegated by the Security Council to inspect those weapons.

The Iraqi claim to have returned all Kuwaiti prisoners of war is another lie. Kuwait has submitted to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Security Council a fully documented list of all Kuwaiti prisoners of war held in Iraq. We have also given the ICRC a list of the prisons where the Iraqi regime is keeping those prisoners.

In spite of all of this, Iraq has never allowed the ICRC to visit those prisons. From this Assembly Hall, we challenge Iraq to allow unconditionally the ICRC to visit the Iraqi prisons and detention camps. As to the claim that Kuwait refuses to take those prisoners back, it is merely another blatant lie. Kuwait has demanded the return of all the Kuwaiti prisoners of war whose names we have submitted to the ICRC, and not those whom Iraq claims to be Kuwaitis. The inspection made by the Kuwaiti authorities proved beyond any doubt that the latter have no connection whatsoever to Kuwait. They are not even registered in our civil records, which have been deposited with the United Nations in accordance with the pertinent Security Council resolution. The proof of this is that Kuwait has welcomed back all who were living in Kuwait prior to 2 August 1990, including those who fall under the category of "reunion".

(Mr. Al-Sallal, Kuwait)

Iraq claims to adhere to the cease-fire agreement while it continues to hold Kuwaiti prisoners of war, violate our borders and fire upon our patrols. Iraq also claims to adhere to the relevant Security Council resolutions. Iraq's concept of how to implement Security Council resolutions can be seen in the way it is besieging the inspection teams. It has violated all those resolutions, including resolution 670 (1990).

In conclusion, the Iraqi regime is shedding crocodile tears on the tragedy of the Iraqi people. This shocks and pains us deeply. The Iraqi authorities have uprooted and killed millions of Iraqis in the south and the north of that country. We need only recall the painful scenes that were witnessed by the entire world on television and through the international media last spring. Hundreds of thousands of Iraqi refugees remain huddled on the Iranian and Turkish borders.

Mr. MARKU (Albania): Today's statement by His Excellency the Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, Mr. Budimir Loncar, obliges me to take a few moments to express my sincere perplexity at his remark that the head of the Albanian delegation, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kapllani, had "poured oil on the flames" in his statement yesterday.

Unhesitatingly speaking the truth does not mean that one is pouring oil on the flames. On the contrary, it means that one is sincerely concerned with putting out those flames. Looking into the truth calmly and in an unprejudiced manner is the solid ground wherefrom the solution of the Yugoslav crisis should proceed.

At the same time, I should like to remind the General Assembly that in the Albanian Foreign Minister's statement there was nothing more than what has

(Mr. Marku, Albania)

been pointed out time and again by representatives of the Yugoslav republics, by the Yugoslav President, by the Yugoslav Prime Minister himself and by other senior officials as well as by national Governments of a good many democratic States.

Mr. KADRAT (Iraq) (interpretation from Arabic): There is no doubt that the representative of the Kuwaiti regime believes that he can get away with his lies by hiding behind masters who will support his position. We all remember the big lie told by the Kuwaiti regime in claiming that Iraq had invaded Bubiyan Island. That was yet another lie adopted by the Kuwaiti regime to maintain the savage blockade against Iraq and to forge new alliances to bring greater foreign presence to and thus perpetuate foreign hegemony in the region indefinitely, in addition of course to achieving the other well-known political objectives.

(Mr. Kadrat, Iraq)

As has been announced several times by Iraq and has been confirmed by Mr. Ahmad Hussein, our Foreign Minister, in his statement a few hours ago before this Assembly, Iraq is committed to the implementation of all Security Council resolutions. However, we see that attempts are still being made to harm Iraq and its kind people and interfere in its internal affairs under the guise of international legitimacy, in spite of the fact that Iraq has implemented all the resolutions adopted by the Security Council. This takes the shape of problems of one type or another which are created in order to maintain the inhuman immoral blockade against the Iraqi people. Within this context we see the behaviour of the Kuwaiti regime, including the incident of Bubiyan and the claim that Iraq is holding Kuwaiti prisoners of war.

Representatives heard our Foreign Minister a few hours ago, as I have said. He provided facts supported by figures, and I believe there is absolutely no need to repeat those facts. The Kuwaiti regime is obstructing the release of those prisoners of war because it has to make sure of their identity. This is part of the violation of human rights in Kuwait which has been attested to by all international humanitarian organizations, in addition to the well-known mass graves.

The PRESIDENT: I now call on the representative of Kuwait, who wishes to speak a second time in exercise of the right of reply. This intervention is limited to five minutes.

Mr. AL-SALLAL (Kuwait) (interpretation from Arabic): I shall be very brief. At the outset I should like to state that the representative of the Iraqi regime imagines that he is addressing a group of children who do not know what is going on in the United Nations corridors or inside the Security Council.

(Mr. Al-Sallal, Kuwait)

Those Security Council resolutions were adopted by a majority and in some cases received the unanimous vote of the 15 members of the Security Council, condemning Iraq's violations of the cease-fire and of Security Council resolutions, and these do not need any more comment. If one is talking about human rights, it is ridiculous and laughable that the person talking about human rights is the representative of Iraq.

The PRESIDENT: I now call on the representative of Iraq, who wishes to speak a second time in exercise of the right of reply. This intervention is limited to five minutes.

Mr. KADRAT (Iraq) (interpretation from Arabic): The statement by the representative of Kuwait is not only mendacious but ridiculous, because the size of the conspiracy against Iraq and the Arab world especially at this stage is enormous indeed and much greater than the claims of the representative of that regime which has been a tool of foreigners in the perpetration of this crime and aggression against Iraq in the interests of international Zionism.

The meeting rose at 7 p.m.